

Message Text

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13

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SUBJECT: VISIT TO US OF SLOVENIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
PRESIDENT MARINC

REF: ZAGREB 0959; STATE 227630; BELGRADE 2352; AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: SLOVENIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANDREJ MARINC AND HIS ACCOMPANYING PARTY RETURNED TO LJUBLJANA NOVEMBER 26 CLEARLY PLEASED WITH THEIR US VISIT. AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE, MARINC SAID HIS VISIT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY (A) AGAIN TO REITERATE YUGOSLAVIA'S ADHERENCE TO THE FOREIGN POLICY IT HAS PURSUED FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS; (B) TO MEET WITH PROMINENT AMERICAN LEADERS, INCLUDING SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CARL ALBERT, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DENT, AND CONGRESSMAN BLATNIK; (C) TO HOLD USEFUL TALKS AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT; (D) TO ESTABLISH A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL CONTACTS; AND (E) TO MEET SLOVENIAN-AMERICAN GROUPS. MARINC JUDGED THAT HIS VISIT HELPED EXTEND THE BASIS FOR EXPANDING US-YUGOSLAV COOPERATION AND COMMERCIAL TIES. MARINC WAS WELCOMED AT AIRPORT BY TWO VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE SLOVENIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, OTHER SLOVENIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, LEADING BANKING AND OTHER COMMERCIAL FIGURES,
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CG KAISER, AND LJUBLJANA USIC DIRECTOR HENZE. END SUMMARY

1. ALTHOUGH WEARY FROM THEIR TRAVELS, MARINC AND HIS PARTY WERE ELATED BY THEIR VISIT TO THE US. IN HIS PRIVATE COMMENTS TO US AND IN HIS STATEMENTS TO YUGOSLAV TV AND PRESS, MARINC CONVEYED HIS PLEASURE WITH THE FULL PROGRAM OF MEETINGS, CONTACTS, AND EXPERIENCES IN THE US. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEET SPEAKER ALBERT AND TO HAVE HAD "A LONG AND USEFUL" SESSION WITH SECRETARY DENT. HE EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING HIS REWARDING VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND HIS APPRECIATION FOR CONGRESSMAN BLATNIK'S HELP IN PROMOTING USEFUL MEETINGS.

2. IN ANSWER TO A PRESS QUESTION, MARINC SAID HIS TRIP HAD PRODUCED NO CONCRETE RESULTS. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FACT THAT HE AND HIS GROUP HAD ESTABLISHED MANY USEFUL CONTACTS WITH ABOUT 150 AMERICAN COMPANIES AND BANKS. THESE, HE SAID, COULD PROVE MOST USEFUL IN EXPANDING SLOVENIA'S COMMERCIAL TIES WITH THE US. HE CITED MICROELECTRONICS AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES AS AREAS IN WHICH THE US AND YUGOSLAVIA SHARE A COMMON INTEREST AND IN WHICH THERE COULD BE INCREASED COOPERATION.

3. MARINC GAVE THE PRESS A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF HIS TRAVELS IN US, MENTIONING HIS VISIT TO THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION IN BELTSVILLE, MD.; HIS VISITS TO PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH, CLEVELAND, CHICAGO, MINNESOTA, AND NEW YORK; AND THE FULL WASHINGTON, D.C., PROGRAM. HE HAD COMPLIMENTARY WORDS TO SAY ABOUT EACH ONE OF HIS STOPS.

4. RESPONDING TO A REPORTER'S POINTED QUESTION, MARINC SAID HE BELIEVED HIS VISIT HAD PRODUCED USEFUL CONTACTS FOR ALL RPT ALL OF YUGOSLAVIA AND NOT JUST FOR SLOVENIA.

5. WE WERE ABLE TO INFORM MARINC THAT WE HAD RECEIVED THE FIRST TV FILM OF HIS TRIP TO THE US AND THAT IT WOULD BE DELIVERED TO SLOVENIAN AUTHORITIES THAT SAME DAY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT LJUBLJANA TV WILL USE IT FOR A TV PROGRAM ON NOVEMBER 30 AND THAT BORIS CESEN, COUNSELOR IN OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, PLANS TO DO AT LEAST TWO OTHER TV PROGRAMS ON MARINC VISIT.

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8. COMMENT: THE EVIDENT GOODWILL AND PLEASURE OF MARINC AND HIS PARTY REFLECTED HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMMING IN THE US. WE BELIEVE THAT THE TRIP EFFECTIVELY SERVED US AND YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. IT INJECTED ANOTHER ELEMENT OF WARMTH IN OUR RELATIONS WHICH MAY EXTEND BEYOND THE BORDERS OF SLOVENIA. AT A RECEPTION IN ZAGREB EVENING NOVEMBER 26, A NUMBER OF CROATIAN REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS SPOKE TO US ABOUT THE

MARINC VISIT AND INDICATED THAT CROATIA IS ALSO INTERESTED IN
PROMOTING MORE CONTACTS WITH THE US.
KAISER

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